

Application No. 09/462,506

least one surface of one of a layer and a component of the fabric to solvent free plasma treatment in a plasma chamber having a water free atmosphere and self-sealing fabric entry and exit openings.

REMARKS

Claims 12-21 and 26 are pending, with Claim 12 being independent. By this amendment, Claim 12 is amended to recite that the method is for treating papermachine or filtration fabric and for correcting a typographical error. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to Claim 12 by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made".

Applicant respectfully submits that none of the cited references disclose or teach the subject matter recited in Claim 12. That is, none of the references disclose or teach a method for treating papermachine or filtration fabric including the step of continuously subjecting at least one surface of a layer of the fabric to solvent free plasma treatment in a plasma chamber having a water free atmospheric and self sealing fabric entry and exit openings. Claims 13-21 and 26 depend from independent Claim 12 and are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons relating to the allowability of Claim 12.